



Annual Warrant ~~ Town of Whitefield FY 2026-2027

To: Laurel Mullens, Resident of the Town of Whitefield, County of Lincoln, State of Maine.

GREETINGS,

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the residents of the Town of Whitefield, Maine in Lincoln County, qualified to vote on Town affairs, to assemble at the Whitefield Central Fire Station, located at 24 Townhouse Road in said Town of Whitefield on Friday the Twentieth day of March, 2026, at 2:45 PM, then and there to act upon Article 1 and by secret ballot on Article 2, the polling hours therefore to be from 3:00 PM in the afternoon until 7:00 PM in the evening:

Pursuant to Title 21-A, Section 759(7), absentee ballots will be processed at the polls at the following times of 5:00 PM and 7:00 PM.

And to notify and warn said voters to assemble for the business meeting at the Whitefield Elementary School located at 164 Grand Army Road in said Town of Whitefield on Saturday the Twenty first day of March 2026 at 10:00 AM, then and there to act on Articles 3 through 49 as set out below, to wit:

Article 1: To elect a Moderator by written ballot to preside at said meeting.

Article 2: To elect by secret ballot municipal officials namely, two Select Board Members/Assessors/Overseers of the Poor; two Planning Board Members; one RSU 12 School Board Member, all for three-year terms.

Article 3: To see if the Town will fix dates when taxes shall be due and payable, and to see if the Town will fix an annual interest rate to be charged on unpaid taxes after said dates, and to allow the Tax Collector or Treasurer to accept the prepayment of taxes not yet committed, pursuant to 36 M.R.S. §506, amount not to exceed previous year's taxes. Interest on any prepayments will be zero percent.
25/26 budget year interest rate 5%.

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF: Taxes due Monday, November 30, 2026 and Friday, April 30, 2027 and a 5% interest rate for unpaid taxes.

Article 4: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from surplus funds to pay for tax abatements and any interest due thereon.

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS APPROVAL

Note: 24/25 budget expended \$15,725 / 25/26 budget expended \$3,122 as of 1.30.2026

Article 5: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Tax Collector to enter into a standard agreement with taxpayers establishing a "tax club" payment plan for property taxes, whereby:

- the taxpayer agrees to pay specified monthly payments to the Town based on his or her estimated and actual tax obligation for the current year property taxes;
- the Town agrees not to charge interest on timely payments made pursuant to the tax club agreement;
- the Town authorizes the Town Tax Collector to accept tax club payments for current taxes which may be due prior to the commitment of those taxes;
- the agreement is automatically terminated if a scheduled payment is late, and the taxpayer then becomes subject to the same due dates and interest dates and rates as other taxpayers who are not participating in a tax club;

- only taxpayers who do not have any outstanding tax obligations for prior tax years are eligible to participate in the tax club program;
- taxpayers wishing to participate in a tax club for a particular property tax year shall enter into an agreement with the Town by a publicly advertised deadline determined by the Town Tax Collector.

Article 6: To see if the Town will authorize the Treasurer, after Select Board Approval, to file a waiver of automatic foreclosure of a tax lien at the Registry of Deeds, pursuant to 36 M.R.S. §944 on real estate that may be contrary to the Town's best interest.

Article 7: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to enter into multi-year contracts to negotiate optimal value for the procurement of certain necessary services to the Town.

Article 8: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board on behalf of the Town to sell and dispose of any real estate acquired by the Town for nonpayment of taxes thereon, for such terms as they deem advisable and execute quitclaim deeds for the same; in accordance with the process required by law, Title 36 M.R.S. § 943-C if they choose to sell it to anyone other than the former owner(s).

Article 9: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to accept gifts of money or personal property to the Town and to appropriate and expend such gifts for such public purposes as the Select Board deems to be in the best interest of the Town.

Article 10: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to apply for and accept state and federal grants and grants from nonprofit organizations on behalf of the Town for municipal purposes including, when necessary, the authority to sign the grant contract and accept the conditions that accompany grant funds, and to appropriate and expend grant funds for the authorized purposes.

Article 11: To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board to dispose of Town owned property valued up to \$1,000. Property valued over \$1,000 will be sold through auction or sealed-bid process.

Article 12: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate to provide Compensation to the Select Board and Secretary during the ensuing fiscal year.
25/26 Budget was \$21,813

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$22,313 (4-0)
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: \$22,922 (7-0)

Article 13: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the purpose of providing Compensation and Employee benefits for Town Employees during the ensuing fiscal year.
25/26 Budget was \$259,660

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$266,713 (5-0)
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME: \$266,713 (7-0)

Note: This includes Admin Salaries, Insurances, Social Security for all departments (including part time employees), Income Protection, Retirement, Accrued Wage Expense, PFML, Travel and Training.

Article 14: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for general expenses associated with the Operation of Town Government during the ensuing fiscal year.
25/26 Budget was \$136,939

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$145,726 (4-0)
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME: \$145,726 (7-0)

Note: Includes MMA dues, subscriptions, registry, advertising, office supplies, postage, telephone, internet, utilities, heat, property insurance, workers compensation insurance, legal services, audit fees, assessing fees, computer software (TRIO), tax bills, town reports, tax map and GIS updates, website, other contracted services, office equipment, land taxes, preservation of records, etc.

Article 15: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Elections expenses during the ensuing fiscal year.

25/26 Budget was \$4,250

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$3,950 (4-0)

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME: \$3,950 (6-0-1)

Article 16: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Planning Board expenses and Code Enforcement Officer (CEO) expenses during the ensuing fiscal year.

25/26 Budget was \$16,216

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$16,195 (5-0)

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME: \$16,195 (7-0)

Note: Planning Board, \$5,500; Code Enforcement Officer, \$10,695

Article 17: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Facilities Maintenance during the ensuing fiscal year.

25/26 Budget was \$53,950

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$37,670 (4-0)

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME: \$37,670 (7-0)

Article 18: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Operation of the Whitefield Fire Department during the ensuing fiscal year.

25/26 Budget was \$225,785 (Delta included \$80,955)

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$160,344 (5-0)

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME: \$160,344 (7-0-1)

Note: This includes the Annual Emergency Management Operations \$500 (Year #9) that is part of Article #29 non-lapsing approval. Delta Services have been removed from the Fire Department Budget and are now in its own Article, see below.

Article 19: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Delta Ambulance Service during the ensuing fiscal year.

25/26 Budget was \$80,955 (previously included in the FD Budget of \$225,785, see above)

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$138,780 (5-0)

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME: \$138,780 (9-0)

Note: Delta Ambulance rate increases from \$35 to \$60 per capita

Article 20: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Animal Control Contract during the ensuing fiscal year.

25/26 Budget was \$10,500

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$13,000 (4-1)

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: \$10,500 (7-1)

- Article 21: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Maintenance and Repairs of Town Roads during the ensuing fiscal year.
25/26 Budget was \$466,025
- SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$795,024 (5-0)
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME: \$795,024 (8-0)
- Note: See Revenues in Article 43, \$315,000 will come from the Road Maintenance Fund/Roads Carryover Fund
- Article 22: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Winter Maintenance of Town Roads during the ensuing fiscal year.
25/26 Budget was \$464,300
- SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$467,300 (5-0)
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: \$466,300 (9-0)
- Article 23: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the General Assistance Program during the ensuing fiscal year.
25/26 Budget was \$2,000
- SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$2,000 (5-0)
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME: \$2,000 (6-3)
- Article 24: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Soldiers' Graves and Cemetery Maintenance during the ensuing fiscal year.
25/26 Budget was \$8,300 (Whitefield Cemetery included \$5,000)
- SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$4,700 (5-0)
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: \$3,500 (9-0)
- Note: Whitefield Cemetery Association (\$5,000) has been removed from this Article and is now in its own Article, see Article # 42
- Article 25: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate in support of the following outside services: Midcoast Humane & Hatch Hill during the ensuing fiscal year.
25/26 Budget was \$26,900
- SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$27,980 (5-0)
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME: \$27,980 (9-0)
- Note: Midcoast Humane, \$3,900; Hatch Hill, \$24,080
- Article 26: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Salaries and Utilities for the Recycling Center during the ensuing fiscal year.
25/26 Budget was \$5,419
- SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$7,248 (4-0)
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME: \$7,248 (9-0)
- Article 27: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Fire Department Capital Outlay during the ensuing fiscal year.
25/26 Budget was \$9,000
- SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$9,000 (5-0)
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME: \$9,000 (9-0)
- Note: This is the 9th Year

Article 28: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for a Town Grader/Road Equipment Maintenance Outlay during the ensuing fiscal year.
25/26 Budget was \$8,000

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$12,000 (5-0)
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: \$10,000 (9-0)

Note: This is the 2nd Year

Article 29: To see if the Town will vote to lapse all balances into undesignated Fund Balance except those which must be carried forward by statute and the balances of the following accounts: Emergency Management Operations, Fire Department Capital, Maintenance and Repairs for Town Roads and the Grader/Road Equipment Maintenance Outlay these accounts will not lapse and to allow the Select Board to expend from them in future years for their designated purposes.

Article 30: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for a Tax Anticipation Note (TAN) during the ensuing fiscal year.
25/26 Budget was \$600

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$600 (5-0)
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME: \$600 (9-0)

Article 31: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate to support the Debt Service incurred for the Fire Department and Fire Truck during the ensuing fiscal year.
25/26 Budget was \$54,926

Fire Truck Principal	\$19,503	Matures 11.1.2029, Balance 6.30.2025 \$100,938.58
Fire Truck Interest	\$ 2,444	
Fire Station Principal	\$18,272	Matures 11.1.2040, Balance 6.30.2025 \$292,343.52
Fire Station Interest	<u>\$ 9,700</u>	
	\$49,919	

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$49,919 (5-0)
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME: \$49,919 (9-0)

** Each Organization is separated out into its own article, including the Whitefield Cemetery Association **

Article 32: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Maine General Hospice during the ensuing year.
25/26 Budget was \$0

Note: 26/27 Organization Request amount: \$1,137

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$1,137 (4-1)
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME: \$1,137 (9-0)

Article 33: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Kennebec Behavioral Health during the ensuing year.
25/26 Budget was \$0

Note: 26/27 Organization Request amount: \$2,495

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$1,000 (5-0)
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME: \$1,000 (9-0)

- Article 34: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for New Hope Midcoast during the ensuing year.
25/26 Budget was \$640
Note: 26/27 Organization Request amount: \$640
SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$640 (5-0)
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME: \$640 (9-0)
- Article 35: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Spectrum Generations during the ensuing year.
25/26 Budget was \$1,200
Note: 26/27 Organization Request amount: \$1,321
SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$1,321 (5-0)
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME: \$1,321 (9-0)
- Article 36: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Young at Heart during the ensuing year.
25/26 Budget was \$175
Note: 26/27 Organization Request amount: \$175
SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$175 (5-0)
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME: \$175 (9-0)
- Article 37: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Children's Center during the ensuing year.
25/26 Budget was \$0
Note: 26/27 Organization Request amount: \$1,241
SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$1,241 (5-0)
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME: \$1,241 (9-0)
- Article 38: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for The Lifelight Foundation during the ensuing year.
25/26 Budget was \$0
Note: 26/27 Organization Request amount: \$602
SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$0 (4-1)
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME: \$0 (8-0-1)
- Article 39: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Sweetser during the ensuing year.
25/26 Budget was \$0
Note: 26/27 Organization Request amount: \$500
SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$500 (5-0)
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME: \$500 (8-0-1)

Article 40: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Whitefield Library Association during the ensuing fiscal year.

25/26 Budget was \$20,000

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$20,000 (5-0)

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME: \$20,000 (9-0)

Article 41: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Whitefield Food Bank during the ensuing fiscal year.

25/26 Budget was \$3,000 (\$1,500 Taxes + \$1,500 from William Turner Charity Trust)

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$3,000 (5-0)

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME: \$3,000 (9-0)

Note: \$1,500 will come from William Turner Charity (see revenue sources Article # 43)

Article 42: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Whitefield Cemetery Association during the ensuing fiscal year.

25/26 Budget was \$5,000 (previously included in Cemetery Maintenance Budget, Article # 24)

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$5,000 (5-0)

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME: \$5,000 (9-0)

Article 43: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and authorize the Select Board to expend funds from the following General Fund revenue sources to be applied toward the 26/27 budget thereby decreasing the amount to be raised from property taxes.

Auto Excise	\$495,000
Boat Excise	\$ 2,200
Agent Fees	\$ 12,300
Licenses/Certificates	\$ 1,600
Cemetery Mowing Reimbursement	\$ 2,075
Veteran	\$ 2,000
Tree Growth	\$ 4,000
Renewable Energy	\$ 600
Interest on Taxes	\$ 5,000
Lien Cost	\$ 3,500
Bank Interest	\$ 6,000
Other Miscellaneous Revenue	\$ 3,925
Cable Franchise Fees	\$ 5,000
Will Turner Charity Fund (Food Pantry)	\$ 1,500
Local Roads Assistance Program	\$ 76,000
Road Maintenance Fund / Roads Carryover Fund	\$315,000
Unassigned Fund Balance	<u>\$300,000</u>
Total	\$1,235,700

25/26 Budget was \$832,540

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$1,235,700

Article 44: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate all funds received by the Town from the State of Maine for snowmobile registrations to the Snowmobile Club for the purpose of maintaining snowmobile trails and to authorize the municipal officers to enter into an agreement with the Club, under such terms and conditions as the municipal officers may deem advisable, for that purpose. These funds are to be used for the maintenance of snowmobile trails within the Town.

Article 45: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to move funds in the municipal budget from categories with balances to those with deficits during the ensuing fiscal year.

Article 46: To authorize the Select Board to accept and expend any other revenue from State, Federal, local or private sources for the support of the Town during the ensuing fiscal year.

Article 47: Shall an ordinance entitled “Automobile Graveyard, Automobile Recycling Business and Junkyard Ordinance” for the Town of Whitefield, Maine (as amended March 2026) be enacted?

Note: The updates and changes presented are to bring the Ordinance in compliance with the current State statutes. The last time amendments to this ordinance were approved by Town Meeting was March 2018.

Attested copies of the “Automobile Graveyard, Automobile Recycling Business and Junkyard Ordinance” for the Town of Whitefield as amended March 2026 are available from the municipal clerk.

Article 48: Shall an ordinance entitled “Building and Development Ordinance” for the Town of Whitefield, Maine be enacted?

Note: The updates and changes presented are to bring the Ordinance in compliance with the current State statutes. The last time amendments to this ordinance were approved by Town Meeting was March 2023.

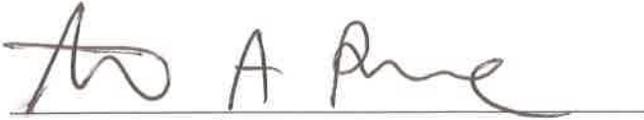
Attested copies of the “Building and Development Ordinance” for the Town of Whitefield as amended March 2026 are available from the municipal clerk.

Article 49: Shall an ordinance entitled “Solid Waste Commercial Hauling Ordinance” for the Town of Whitefield, Maine be enacted?

Attested copies of the proposed “Solid Waste Commercial Hauling Ordinance” for the Town of Whitefield are available from the municipal clerk.

The Registrar will be in session during Town Meeting to register anyone eligible to vote in Town matters.

Given under our hands and seal in the said Town of Whitefield this 10th day of February, 2026



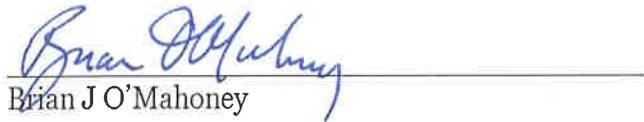
Seth A Bolduc, Chair



Brent W Hallowell, Vice Chair



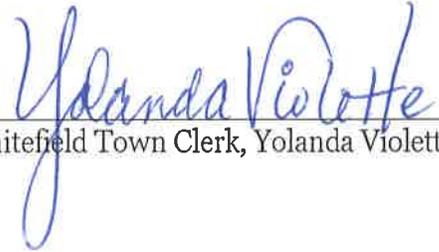
James R Torbert



Brian J O'Mahoney



Erin E Anderson

Attested: 
Whitefield Town Clerk, Yolanda Violette